

DRAFT

STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICE BOARD MEETING

August 6, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

**Indiana Government Center South, Room W064
402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Christopher Cooke, pursuant to public notice posted at the principal office of the board at least seventy-two (72) hours before the time of the meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christopher Cooke, Chairman, Cemetery Member
Frank Downing, Vice Chairman, Funeral Director Member
Thomas Sproles, Funeral Director Member
Pamela Gardner, Consumer Member

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:

Kathleen Matuszak, Cemetery Member

STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Tracy Hicks, Board Director
Ruth Hashu Roorda, Assistant Board Director
Jessica Murillo, Office of Litigation Management
Clarence Leatherbury, Deputy Attorney General
Zaneta Nunnally, Compliance Director
Courtney Calvert, Compliance Officer

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the amended agenda.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 4, 2026 MEETING OF THE BOARD

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2026 meeting as amended to indicate call to order by Christopher Cooke

Downing/Sproles

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

PUBLIC RULE HEARING REGARDING LSA DOCUMENT 26-122, 11:00 A.M.

Hearing no public comment, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the rule.

Sproles/Gardner

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR EDUCATION FUND

The board would like to look for ways to use the education fund and would like a balance for the next meeting.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORT

Written and verbal report provided. DAG Mathew reported the average age of complaint investigations has dropped again to less than seven months and there are 62 open funeral & cemetery investigations.

An Administrative Hearing will be scheduled for the next board meeting for Crown Cremations, Kelly Rodriguez, and P. Richard Sallie, Cause No.: 202604-FCB-0014 because it is unlikely the settlement offer resulting from the June settlement conference will not be accepted.

IPLA COMPLIANCE DIVISION REPORT

Inspector Calvert reported that between June 4, 2026 and August 5, 2026, two funeral branches were inspected, one passed and one was marked out of business. Fifteen funeral homes were inspected, six passed, six were marked out of business, two were issued a corrective action plan, and one failed.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

1. Zalo Wilson Jr., FD08800062
Cause No.: 202606-FCB-0016
Re: Administrative Complaint

A motion was made and seconded to issue an Order of Proposed Default.

Sproles/Downing
4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner
Motion carried.

2. Greiner Funeral Home, FH10900011 & Gary G. Greiner, FD09100013
Cause No.: 202603-FCB-0012
Re: Summary Suspension Renewal/Notice of Proposed Default

A motion was made and seconded to extend the summary suspension for Respondents.

Sproles/Gardner
4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner
Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to issue a Default Order.

Sproles/Downing
4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner
Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to revoke Respondents licenses, order consumer restitution pursuant to IC 25-1-11-12 from Respondents, plus interest at a rate pursuant to IC 30-2-13-29(d), for the 142 consumers that paid Respondents funds that were not properly trusted, less any already refunded and less any paid out to consumers from the preneed consumer protection fund, give the Office of the Attorney General express authority to collect the restitution, and to file a consumer complaint against Greiner Funeral Home employee, Jenifer Gummere, FD20600003, for her

involvement in this matter, and to order an inspection of the funeral home Gummere is now employed.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner Gardner

Motion carried.

Mr. Sproles is concerned that there may be Medicaid fraud regarding the Greiner Funeral Home given the evidence provided. He suggested FSSA should investigate the matter also. DAG Mathew indicated the Office of the Attorney General has an entire section that investigates Medicaid fraud. He will reach out to his superiors to see if the board can file a complaint to have that investigated. Mr. Cooke suggested they check with Township Trustees for any possible funds they may have paid regarding this matter also.

3. Michael Gilliard, FD21100005

Cause No.: 202603-FCB-0006

Re: Petition to Review: Notice of Proposed Dismissal

A motion was made and seconded to dismiss the matter.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner Gardner

Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR FUNERAL HOME/BRANCH LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

1. Rawls Mortuary (Funeral Home) Appl. #4411644

Benjamin Rawls, Owner

3447 N. College Ave.

Indianapolis IN 46205

A motion was made and seconded to deny the application due to the fact that Benjamin Rawls has not complied with his existing disciplinary Orders.

Downing/Sproles

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner Gardner

Motion carried.

2. Edmondson Family Funeral Home Inc. (Branch) Appl. #4424042

2005 N. 13th St.

Terre Haute, IN 47804

Mr. Sproles asked the following questions of Edmondson Family Funeral Home, Inc., owner, Jeffrey Edmondson.

1) Sproles: Why would you want to involve yourself or associate with Greiner Funeral Home in any matter?

Edmondson: Our goal is strait forward, to restore a locally owned funeral home back to serving the families of Terre Haute & Vigo Co. with transparency, dignity, and full compliance. We understand the challenges with opening up this branch and the association with the previous Greiner Funeral Home location. We will have no ties or relations with Mr. Greiner or his representatives.

2) Sproles: Are you leasing the building?

Edmondson: We did not purchase the building, rather it is being leased.

3) Sproles: Who are you leasing it from?

Edmondson: Mr. Greiner.

4) Sproles: I thought you said there were no ties what so ever with Greiner.

Edmondson: Well, no personal ties to Mr. Greiner but we are leasing the building from him.

5) Sproles: What are the details of your lease agreement?

Edmondson: *Mr. Edmondson provided a written copy of the lease agreement to Mr. Sproles.* It is a one-year lease that can be terminated after 3 months at any time by either party.

6) Sproles: Why did you choose not to purchase the building?

Edmondson: To much risk involved, I wasn't willing to take that type of financial risk.

7) Sproles: So, you are asking the board to grant a license for a 3-to-12-month time period?

Edmondson: Yes.

8) Sproles: Reading the lease agreement, it indicates Edmondson would be responsible for utilities real estate taxes, personal sales taxes, payroll taxes, liability insurance, etc.and \$3500 per month lease.

9) Sproles: How long have you known Greiner?

Edmondson: 35 years and worked with him at a former funeral home for 12 years.

10) Sproles: Have you ever worked for Gary Griner?

Edmondson: Absolutely not.

11) Sproles: Has any of your family worked for Gary Greiner?

Edmondson: My wife used to work for him as a secretary at the funeral home for three years from 2011 to 2014.

Sproles: So, during the time it has been proven preneed monies have been taken.

12) Sproles: What is your relationship with Mr. Greiner's attorney, Mr. Ellis?

Edmondson: I had no relationship with him and had not met him until they entered into negotiations for the funeral branch.

13) Sproles: So, Mr. Ellis is not your personal or professional legal counsel?

Edmondson: No.

14) Sproles: The letter that went out to Greiner Funeral Home preneed purchasers that steered them to your funeral home, how did it come about that the consumer was to be given a choice of a successor seller, however the letter, sent from Mr. Ellis rather than Greiner Funeral Home, indicated your funeral home was chosen to accept any preneed files that had not already been transferred.

Edmondson: I cannot speak to that because it was written by Mr. Ellis.

15) Sproles: You had no prior knowledge the letter to the consumers directed the files to your funeral home?

Edmondson: Mr. Greiner told me he was sending the files to my funeral home, Fitzpatrick Funeral Home, which prompted me to call the Indiana Funeral Directors Association to see if we could accept the files and they said absolutely not, that was against the law. Mr. Edmondson called Mr. Ellis and told him not to bring the files to his funeral home.

16) Sproles: Why was your name on the letter to begin with?

Edmondson: You would have to ask Mr. Ellis, I do not know. I believe he thought the people of Wabash Valley would want to have their funeral services provided by Fitzpatrick Funeral Home.

17) Sproles: Mr. Ellis thought that?

Edmondson: Because at that time we were in negotiations to draw up the lease agreement.

18) Sproles: You were already at that point in your negotiations?

Edmondson: Yes, but we had not signed the lease agreement, and I had no idea he was sending the letter. We contacted him and told him not to send the files to us.

19) Sproles: Section E of the lease agreement, indicated Edmondson and Greiner shall equally split 50% each the net profits on a monthly basis.

Edmondson: Yes.

20) Sproles: He still owns the funeral home, still is pulling the strings on the funeral home. I do not need anything else.

A motion was made and seconded to deny the applications based on the evidence Mr. Edmondson provided in the form of the lease agreement with Mr. Greiner and Mr. Edmondson's testimony.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner

Motion carried.

PROBATION REPORT

The Board requested a probation report that includes all that are on probation and if they have complied with the probation order.

VERIFIED COMPLAINTS REQUESTING RESTITUTION FROM THE PRENEED CONSUMER PROTECTION FUND

1. James Modesitt for Mary Lou Modesitt
Re: Greiner Funeral Home, FH10900011 (Suspended)

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$2045.00 plus interest based on the paid hand written note from the Greiner funeral home.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner

Motion carried.

2. Nicholas French for Susan Thiel
Re: Greiner Funeral Home, FH10900011 (Suspended)

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$2030.00 plus interest upon receipt of a restitution form signed by Mr. French.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

3. Nicholas French for William Thiel
Re: Greiner Funeral Home, FH10900011 (Suspended)

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$2030.00 plus interest upon receipt of a restitution form signed by Mr. French.

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

4. The Meeks Mortuary for Max Rawlings
Re: Wilson Shook Funeral Home, FH10600017 (Closed)

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$15,000.00 plus interest not to exceed the at-need contract.

Sproles/Cooke

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

5. The Meeks Mortuary for Geraldine Ginter
Re: Wilson Shook Funeral Home, FH10600017 (Closed)

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$1495.00 plus interest not to exceed the at-need contract.

Sproles/Gardner

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

REASSIGNMENT OF ELLERS MORTUARY, FB41600019, PRENEED FILES FOR PURCHASERS THAT FAILED TO RESPOND WITH A SUCCESSOR FUNERAL HOME AFTER PROPER NOTICE

A motion was made and seconded to reassign the preneed files to the six funeral homes indicated below.

- 1) City of Firsts Cremation & Funeral Services by Rose and Geiger, FH12200017
- 2) Ellers Funeral Home, FH11600017
- 3) Ellers Funeral Home, FH89200009
- 4) Hasler-Stout Funeral Home, Inc., FH10300022
- 5) Shirley & Stout Funeral Home, FH10500013
- 6) Stout & Son Funeral Home, FH83006025

Downing/Sproles

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

**REASSIGNMENT OF FRAZIER FUNERAL HOME, FH10400029, PRENEED FILES FOR PURCHASERS
THAT FAILED TO RESPOND WITH A SUCCESSOR FUNERAL HOME AFTER PROPER NOTICE**

A motion was made and seconded to reassign the preneed files to the six funeral homes indicated below.

- 1) Integrity Funeral Service & Cremation, FH10200038
- 2) Jackson Funeral Chapel, FH83005752
- 3) Jackson Funeral Service of DeMotte, FH8900009
- 4) Parker & Burnes Funeral Home, FH12600018 (New funeral home in the Fraizer building)
- 5) Boersma Funeral Home, FH10000109
- 6) Steinke Funeral Home, FH83005744

Sproles/Downing

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

REASSIGNMENT OF CRAIG & GLAZEBROOKS FUNERAL SERVICE, FH11900008, PRENEED FILES

A motion was made and seconded to reassign the preneed files to the six funeral homes indicated below.

- 1) Simple Cremations, FB42300018
- 2) Williams & Bluit, FH11100022
- 3) Levenia & Summers, FH11600010

Downing/Gardner

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICE BOARD
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SESSION; PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS AS A CONDITION OF
REINSTATEMENT FOR THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED.**

Tabled until Kathleen Matuszak is present.

REVIEW OF CONTINUING EDUCATION SPONSORS AND COURSES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the following continuing education.

Downing/Sproles

4/0/0

Voting in Favor: Frank Downing, Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner
Gardner

Motion carried.

NEW CE PROVIDER:

Johnson Consulting Group 4405422

- A. Johnson Consulting Group Leadership & Management Program, March 31 – April 2, 2026, 24 CEU, non-law (already had students before seeking approval for this course – Provided more information since the June 4th Meeting)

EXISTING CE PROVIDERS:

Akron Concrete Products CE10800616

- A. Indiana Cemetery Law, 9/1/2026, 2 CEU, Law #4
- B. Embalming Challenges & Best Practices, 9/1/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- C. Indiana Funeral Law & Case Studies, 9/2/2026, 2 CEU, Law #2
- D. Embalming Unknowns, 9/2/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- E. Outer Burial Container (OBC) Basics, 9/1/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- F. Outer Burial Container (OBC) Basics, 9/2/2026, 1 CEU, non-law

Allyse R. Worland, CFSP CE22000014

- A. Funeral Professional Self Care, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- B. Preventing Lawsuits with Tech, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- C. The Real Shortage, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law

Colibri Healthcare, LLC CE10800701

- A. Evolving Funeral Practices: Modern Trends, ongoing, 3 CEU, non-law

The Dodge Company/The Dodge Institute of Advanced Mortuary Studies CE108000649

- A. 2026 Dodge Technical Seminar, 11/13/2026, 6 CEU, non-law
- B. 2026 Dodge Technical Seminar, 11/14/2026, 3 CEU, non-law

Education Workers Group CE22400014

- A. Navigating Grief Support, Loss and Bereavement, ongoing, 2 CEU, non-law

Frain Crematory CE22400020

- A. Veterans Affairs, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- B. Cornea Code, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- C. Welfare and Burial, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- D. Public Health Code, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- E. Pre-Need Act, ongoing, 1 CEU, Law 1
- F. Practice Act, ongoing, 1 CEU, Law 2
- G. Cemetery Act, ongoing, 1 CEU, Law 4
- H. Cremation Act, ongoing, 1 CEU, Law 3
- I. Funeral Ethics, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- J. Funeral Technology, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law

Frigid Fluid Company CE22200019

- A. CFS Fluid Forum, 8/18/2026, 4 CEU, non-law

Funeral Assoc of Falls Cities CE10800717

- A. Stock Yards Bank Funeral Trust Updates, 11/5/2026, 1 CEU, non-law

Indiana Cremation Association of North America CE21200016

- A. CANA's 108th Convention 2026, 8/12/2026 to 8/14/2026, 9 CEU, non-law

International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association University CE10800864

- A. ICCFAU: School for Graduate Studies, 7/17/2026 - 7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- B. ICCFAU: J. Asher Neel College of Sales and Marketing, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026 23 CEU, non-law
- C. ICCFAU: Todd VanBeck College of Funeral Home Management, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- D. ICCFAU: College of 21st Century Services, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- E. ICCFAU: College of Hospitality and Customer Experience, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- F. ICCFAU: College of Land Management and Grounds Operation, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- G. ICCFAU: College of Technology, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law

- H. ICCFAU: College of Leadership, Management and Administration, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- I. ICCFAU: College of Cremation Services, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law
- J. PLPA: Pet Loss and Integration short course, 7/17/2026-7/22/2026, 23 CEU, non-law

Indiana Donor Network CE21600014

- A. Donation Education Library: 2026 FDS Library, ongoing, 2 CEU, non-law
- B. 2026 Funeral Director Symposium Reception 1, 9/21/2026, 3 CEU, non-law
- C. 2026 Funeral Director Symposium Reception 2, 9/22/2026, 6 CEU, non-law
- D. Donation Education Library: 2023 FDS Library, ongoing, 5 CEU, non-law
- E. Donation Education Library: 2024 FDS Library, ongoing, 4 CEU, non-law
- F. Donation Education Library: 2025 FDS Library, ongoing, 2 CEU, non-law

Selected Independent Funeral Homes CE10800819

- A. Nine Years and Counting: Ceremonies, Support and The Family Impact of Trauma, 7/30/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- B. Hospitality Skills for all Funeral Service Professionals, 7/30/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- C. Building Resilience to Cross Your Finish Line, 9/3/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- D. Emotional Intelligence for Extraordinary Teams, 9/3/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- E. Preparing Family Businesses for Change, Transition & Succession, 9/4/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- F. Speaking Their Language, Sharing Your Value, 9/4/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- G. Building Better Cremation Experiences, 9/4/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- H. Grief Awareness Training, 9/4/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- I. Membership Business and Association Training, 9/5/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- J. Futures Session, 9/5/2026, 1 CEU, non-law

The Dodge Institute of Advanced Mortuary Studies/The Dodge Company CE10800649

- A. 2026 Dodge Technical Seminar 1, 11/13/2026, 6 CEU, non-law
- B. 2026 Dodge Technical Seminar 2, 11/14/2026, 3 CEU, non-law

The Independent Funeral Group CE22500007

- A. Without a Witness, Everything Just Disappears, 9/22/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- B. Employer Rights Under OSHA, 9/22/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- C. Inside the Medical Examiners Office, 9/22/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- D. My Journey in Funeral Service & Navigating Sudden Traumatic Death, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- E. Funeral Traditions, Cultural Differences & The Royal Funeral Through Scotland, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- F. How to Enhance The Customer Experience and the Value it Brings To Your Organization, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- G. Strategic Debt: Turning Leverage into Growth, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- H. Decoding the Death Certificate, 10/14/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- I. Without a Witness, Everything Just Disappears, 12/9/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- J. Embalming For Transport 1, 1/6/2027, 1 CEU, non-law
- K. Embalming For Transport 2, 1/20/2027, 1 CEU, non-law

Vermilion County Funeral Directors Association CE10800843

- A. Funeral Professional Peer Support, ongoing, 1 CEU, non-law
- B. Disaster Cleanup, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- C. Seeing Is Healing, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- D. Tissue Talks, 9/23/2026, 2 CEU, non-law
- E. Comprehensive Techniques, 9/23/2026, 1 CEU, non-law

Wilbert Funeral Services Inc. CE21500018

- A. Evolution of Our Profession and Cultural Rituals, 9/17/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- B. Artificial Intelligence: Fact and Fiction, 9/3/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- C. Can I Do That, 10/1/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- D. Funeral Ethics, 10/15/2026, 1 CEU, non-law
- E. Beyond the Transfer: Helping Funeral Professionals Answer the Question Families Ask, 10/29/2026, 1 CEU, non-law

A motion was made and seconded to approve the following continuing education.

3/0/1

Voting in Favor: Christopher Cooke, Thomas Sproles, and Pamela Gardner

Abstaining: Frank Downing

Motion carried.

Funeral Directors Life CE21100035

A. The 'WHY' of Funerals, ongoing, 4 CEU, non-law

B. Today's Funeral Home - Creating and Maintaining Value, ongoing, 12 CEU, non-law

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.